

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

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R 220712Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO USDOC WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 7859

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 1442

DEPT. PLEASE PASS TO
MR. DONALD ALFORD WEADON, JR.
100 BUSH STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94104

E O. 11652: NA
TAGS: BGEN, EAID, TC

REFERENCE YOUR LETTER OF APRIL 14, 1978. EMBASSY APOLOGISES FOR
TELEGRAPHIC REPLY, BUT YOUR LETTER RECEIVED LATE AND SEVERAL SOURCES
OF INFORMATION HAVE BEEN UNAVAILABLE. THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS
ARE KEYED TO THE NUMBERED QUESTIONS IN YOUR LETTER.

1. NO, THERE IS NO LAW REQUIRING THIS. AS A PRACTICAL MATTER
WHEN A COMPANY OR GOVERNMENT AGENCY IS ORDERING EQUIPMENT, IT MAY
ASK FOR TRAINING. FOR EXAMPLE, THIS IS USUALLY THE CASE WITH THE
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND POLICE, SINCE THE UAEG WISHES THIS TO BE
UNDER THE CONTROL OF ITS CITIZENS WHENEVER POSSIBLE. THE GENERAL
TREND IS CLEARLY TO ENCOURAGE TRAINING PROGRAMS WHEREVER FEASIBLE.
2. IT IS THE POLICY OF SOME SEGMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT, PARTICULARLY
THE OIL, FINANCE AND DEFENSE SECTORS.
3. NO
4. THERE IS NO LAW PROHIBITING OUTSIDE ARBITRATION, BUT GENERAL
UAE POLICY IS TO PREFER ARBITRATION IN ITS OWN COURTS, PARTICULARLY
WHEN A CITIZEN IS INVOLVED.
5. YES, A CONTRACTURAL PROVISION TO ALLOW SUITS IN THE NATION
OF THE FOREIGN CONTRACTOR IS VALID UNDER LOCAL LAW, BUT IT IS
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DISCOURAGED.

- 6A. NO
- 6B. TO THE BEST OF THE EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE, NO.
- 6C. UAE VISA LAWS ARE QUITE PRECISE AND WORK PERMITS ARE REQUIRED.
- 6D. THERE IS NOTHING SPECIFIC IN UAE LAW TO PROTECT FOREIGN
INVESTMENTS, HOWEVER THE INTER-ARAB INVESTMENT GUARANTEE
CORPORATION, AN ORGANIZATION BASED IN KUWAIT, GUARANTEES THE

PROTECTION OTHER ARAB INVESTMENTS.

7. YES. PLEASE CONTACT S. DICKSON TENNEY, CAGNE, US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR EMBASSY AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS ON DOING BUSINESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE UAE.

8. SUGGEST YOU OBTAIN THE UAE ECONOMIC TRENDS REPORT, USDOC PUBLICATION NUMBER 77-107.

TO ANSWER YOUR FINAL SUMMARY QUESTIONS, TO THE BEST OF THE EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE THERE ARE NO LARGE SCALE TRAINING PROGRAMS IN THE UAE RUN BY AMERICAN FIRMS. COMPANIES OPERATING OIL CONCESSIONS IN THE UAE HAVE ENGAGED IN PROGRAMS FOR LOCAL CITIZENS BEGINNING IN THE 1960'S. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO CRITERIA BY WHICH TO JUDGE THE SUCCESS OF THESE TRAINING PROGRAMS. MOST LOCAL CITIZENS WHO HAVE RECEIVED TRAINING NORMALLY LEAVE THE EMPLOY OF THE TRAINING ORGANIZATION TO BECOME INDEPENDENT LOCAL BUSINESSMEN OR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. OUR ESTIMATE OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TRAINED CITIZENS WOULD BE LESS THAN 1000 NATIONALS FROM A POTENTIAL NATIONAL WORK FORCE OF APPROXIMATELY 80,000V MOST CITIZENS ARE LESS INTERESTED IN TECHNICAL EXPERTISE THAN IN MANAGERIAL RESPONSIBILITIES. IF WE CAN BE OF ANY FURTHER ASSISTANCE, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO WRITE TO THE EMBASSY.

HENRY MILLER-JONES
COMMERCIAL OFFICER
AMERICAN EMBASSY
ABU DHABI, U.A.E.
DICKMAN

NOTE BY OC/T: ABU DHABI 1442 PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.
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